

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for transferring files among devices in a network, comprising:

identifying a file to be transferred from a source device, wherein a pre-fetch module at a destination device identifies the file to be transferred from the source device based on, in part, observations of user behavior;

requesting, via ~~[[a]]~~ the destination device, a transfer of ~~[[a]]~~ the identified file from ~~[[a]]~~ the source device;

scheduling the transfer of the file from the source device to the requesting destination device, wherein the transfer is scheduled to be completed by a deadline; and

transferring the file from the source device to the requesting destination device, wherein the file transfer from the source device to the requesting destination device is complete by the scheduled deadline.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein scheduling comprises determining available bandwidth between the source device and the destination device.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein scheduling comprises determining available storage at the destination device.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein a user at the destination device specifies the deadline.

5-8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1, wherein the pre-fetch module is further configured to identify files to be transferred according to predetermined user preferences.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein a device other than the destination device requests the file transfer from the source device.

11. (currently amended) A system for transferring files among devices in a network, comprising:

a destination device configured to send a request to a source device for transfer of a file from the source device to the destination device, wherein the file to be transferred from the source device to the destination device is identified by a pre-fetch module based on, in part, observations of user behavior at the destination device;

a source device configured to transfer the file to the destination device requesting the transfer of the file; and

a scheduling module configured to schedule the transfer of the file from the source device in response to the request by the destination device.

12. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module schedules the transfer to be complete by a deadline.

13. (original) The system of claim 12, wherein a user at the destination device specifies the deadline.

14-16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~[[15]]~~ 11, wherein the pre-fetch module is further configured to identify files to be transferred according to predetermined user preferences.

18. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module schedules the transfer of the file based on available bandwidth at the source device and the destination device.
19. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module schedules the transfer of the file based on available storage at the destination device.
20. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module schedules the transfer of the file based on available bandwidth in the network.
21. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module resides at the source device.
22. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module resides at the destination device.
23. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module resides in both the destination device and the source device.
24. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module resides in a cache device in the network.
25. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the scheduling module resides in the destination device, the source device, and a cache device in the network.

26. (currently amended) A method for transferring files among devices in a network, comprising:

identifying a file via a pre-fetch module at a destination device, wherein the identified file is to be transferred to the destination device and identification of the file is based, in part, on observations of user behavior;

selecting a source device to transfer the file; and

scheduling the transfer of the file from the selected source device to the destination device.

27. (cancelled)

28. (currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the file is further identified, in part, according to a user subscription.

29. (cancelled)

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising completing transfer of the file from the source device to the destination device by a deadline.

31-32. (cancelled)

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein a user at the destination device in the network determines the deadline for completion of the transfer of the file.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein scheduling comprises determining available bandwidth at the source device and the destination device.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein scheduling comprises determining available bandwidth in the network.

36. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein the source device is a server.
37. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein the source device is a cache device in the network.
38. (previously presented) A system for delivering content in a network, comprising:
a client configured to send to a server a request for delivery of the content, the client comprising a pre-fetch module configured to identify content for delivery based, in part, on observations of user behavior;
a scheduling module configured to determine a schedule for delivery of the content from the server to the client requesting the delivery of the content; and
the server configured to deliver the content to the requesting client in response to the request and according to the schedule.
39. (original) The system of claim 38, wherein the content is delivered to the client without a user being present at the client during delivery.
40. (original) The system of claim 38, wherein the scheduling module resides at the server.
41. (original) The system of claim 38, wherein the scheduling module resides at the client.
42. (original) The system of claim 38, wherein the scheduling module resides in a control server in the network.

43. (original) The system of claim 42, wherein the control server monitors bandwidth and storage resources in the network and provides bandwidth and storage resources data to the scheduling module.
44. (original) The system of claim 38, wherein the server attaches digital rights management rules to the content prior to delivery.
45. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the client comprises a digital rights management module configured to implement digital rights management rules attached to the content.
46. (original) The system of claim 38, wherein the client is a general-purpose computer.
47. (original) The system of claim 38, wherein the client is a set-top box.
48. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the request for delivery comprises a deadline for delivery, the scheduling module determines a schedule for delivery to meet the deadline, and the server completes delivery of the content to the client by the deadline.
49. (cancelled)
50. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~[[49]]~~ 38, wherein the pre-fetched content is stored in a cache at the client.
51. (previously presented) The system of claim 50, wherein the client comprises a mini web server configured to receive a request for content from a browser, determine that the requested content resides in the cache as pre-fetched content, and send the requested content from the cache to the browser instead of requesting the content from the server.

52. (original) The system of claim 50, wherein specifically requested content is stored in the cache at the client.
53. (previously presented) The system of claim 52, wherein the client comprises a cache management module configured to determine the size of the cache.
54. (previously presented) The system of claim 52, wherein the client comprises a cache management module configured to organize the content in the cache.
55. (previously presented) The system of claim 52, wherein the client comprises a cache management module configured to implement cache replacement algorithms to add or remove content from the cache.
56. (previously presented) The system of claim 50, wherein the client comprises a cache management module configured to monitor usage of the pre-fetched content in the cache.
57. (previously presented) A system for transferring files among devices in a network, comprising:
- means for requesting, at a destination device, a transfer of a file from a source device, the means for requesting comprising means for identifying the file to be transferred based on, in part, observations of user behavior;
 - means for scheduling the transfer of the file from the source device to the destination device to be completed by a deadline; and
 - means for transferring the file from the source device to the destination device, whereby the file transfer is complete by the deadline.

58. (previously presented) A system for transferring files among devices in a network, comprising:

a plurality of servers configured to deliver content to the devices in the network;

a plurality of clients configured to receive content from the plurality of servers;

at least one pre-fetch module in the network, the pre-fetch module configured to identify a file to be transferred from at least one of the plurality of servers to at least one of the plurality of clients, the identification of the content based, in part, on observations of user behavior at at least one of the plurality of clients; and

a scheduling module configured to determine schedules for delivery of content from the plurality of servers to the plurality of clients, the schedules being based on available bandwidth at the plurality of servers, available bandwidth at the plurality of clients, and available bandwidth in the network between the plurality of servers and clients.